

Isn't a purpose of government regulation to protect the American public from private sector abuses? The cross-ownership regulation is an "oppressor" (as Powell claims) only to the news agencies' profits. It does not oppress the general public, which is the first and foremost responsibility of the government. Single company ownership of multiple popular news sources within a given community constitutes a monopoly of information. Handing the control of information to a private corporation -- whose interests and profits are privatized, and whose leadership is not elected -- oppresses the public: it forces them to rely on those corporations to report accurately and fully the events, politics, and other news concerning their lives and communities. Is the FCC truly naive enough to believe that these corporations have, and always will have, the public good at heart?